



Guide to the Dutch Creek Pocket Prairies



Louisville Open Space installed two native species plantings on Dutch Creek Open Space in May 2020. These “Pocket Prairies” contain 23 plant species native to Boulder County, most of which can be found naturally occurring on Louisville Open Space properties with native plant communities, such as Davidson Mesa and Aquarius. Open Space staff selected species to include a variety of flower colors, bloom periods, and plant architectures. The species mix is intended to provide aesthetic beauty throughout the year and pollinator resources for the duration of the growing season. Native plant species are low-maintenance, drought tolerant, and support native pollinator communities, making them excellent choices for Louisville gardens. You can visit the Pocket Prairies at the trail intersection south of Elephant Park (see star on map).



Left: The site prior to planting. Center: The beds under construction. Right: Planting day!



The Pocket Prairies were covered with blooms in August 2020!

Dutch Creek Pocket Prairies Plant List

Wildflowers (Forbs)

Nodding Onion (*Allium cernuum*)



Perennial
Flowers: Pink
Height: 6–12''

Rocky Mountain Beeplant (*Peritoma serrulata*)



Annual
Flowers: Pink
Height: 12–48''

Small-leaf Pussytoes (*Antennaria parvifolia*)



Perennial
Flowers: White
Height: 3–6''

Sulphur Buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow
Height: 6–12''

Fringed Sage (*Artemisia frigida*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow
Height: 6–9''

Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia aristata*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow-Orange
Height: 12–24''

Prairie Sage (*Artemisia ludoviciana*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow
Height: 12–24''

Prairie Smoke (*Geum triflorum*)



Perennial
Flowers: Pink
Height: 6–18''

Blue Flax (*Linum lewisii*)



Perennial
Flowers: Blue
Height: 6–12''

Blue Mist Penstemon (*Penstemon virens*)



Perennial
Flowers: Blue
Height: 6–12''

Beebalm (*Monarda fistulosa*)



Perennial
Flowers: Lavender/Magenta
Height: 12–24''

Prairie Coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow/Orange
Height: 12–30''

White Evening-Primrose (*Oenothera caespitosa*)



Perennial
Flowers: White
Height: 6''

Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow
Height: 12–30''

Howard's Evening-Primrose (*Oenothera howardii*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow
Height: 6''

Giant Goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*)



Perennial
Flowers: Yellow
Height: 36–60''

One-sided Penstemon (*Penstemon secundiflorus*)



Perennial
Flowers: Pink/Lavender
Height: 6–18''

Smooth Blue Aster (*Symphyotrichum laeve*)



Perennial
Flowers: Blue
Height: 24–48''

Porter Aster (*Symphyotrichum porteri*)



Perennial
Flowers: White
Height: 12–24''

Western Spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis*)



Perennial
Flowers: Purple
Height: 12–24''

Grasses

Sideoats Grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*)



Perennial
Height: 24–48''

Blue Grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*)



Perennial
Height: 6–12''

Alkali Sacaton (*Sporobolus airoides*)



Perennial
Height: 24–48''